

*Order laid before the Assembly under section 2(3) of the Judicature (Northern Ireland) Act 1978, and subject to affirmative resolution of the Assembly*

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STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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**2020 No. 248**

**COURT OF JUDICATURE, NORTHERN IRELAND**

**The Maximum Number of Judges  
Order (Northern Ireland) 2020**

*Made - - - - 11th November 2020*

*Coming into operation in accordance with Article 1*

The Department of Justice makes the following Order in exercise of the power conferred by section 2(3) of the Judicature (Northern Ireland) Act 1978(1).

The Northern Ireland Judicial Appointments Commission has agreed to the making of this Order.

**Citation and commencement**

1. This Order may be cited as the Maximum Number of Judges Order (Northern Ireland) 2020 and comes into operation on the day after the day on which it is affirmed by resolution of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

**Amendment of the Judicature (Northern Ireland) Act 1978**

2. In section 2(1)(2) of the Judicature (Northern Ireland) Act 1978 (the High Court: maximum number of judges) for “ten” substitute “fifteen”.

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(1) 1978 c. 23, as amended by the Northern Ireland Act 2009 (c. 3) and the Department of Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 (c. 3 (N.I.)).

(2) Relevant amendments are S.I. 2004/1985, S.I. 2001/958 and S.I. 1993/606.

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**Status:** This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

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Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Justice on 11th November 2020



*Naomi R. Long*  
Minister of Justice

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order amends section 2(1) of the Judicature (Northern Ireland) Act 1978 ([1978 c. 23](#)) to increase from ten to fifteen the maximum number of puisne judges in Her Majesty's High Court of Justice in Northern Ireland.